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BEHIND THE NEWS

We fear widespread genetic effects

—INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL COMMISSION

AN international medical commission including specialists from countries on both sides in the power struggle has been investigating the effects of the test explosions of atomic and hydrogen bombs.

It has studied the effects of the explosions in the Pacific and in Japan where it has held sessions in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The most important feature of the tests, it says, was the persistence of radioactive contamination of the sea, rain and atmosphere.

"The whole Japanese people were eating radioactive fish, bread, rice and vegetables, drinking radioactive tea and inhaling radioactive dust in the air for months after the Bikini explosion.

"We are afraid that the cumulative effects of increased irradiation over widespread areas may result in unfavourable genetic changes among the populations."

Arising from the report a letter in the current issue of the *Lancet* from Dr. S. Sevvit, who was the British member of the Commission, urges that it is "the duty of doctors all over the world to call for the prohibition of explosions which are a menace to mankind today and future generations."

Dr. Sevvit provides much detail in his letter as to the data and calculations upon which the commission's conclusions were based.

□ ON PAGE TWO

They met in Geneva too

FRANK DAWTRY REPORTS THE
WAR RESISTERS' COUNCIL

IN occupied countries like Germany and England the American service man and his jeep are common sights. It was surprising to see them abounding in Switzerland, in and around Geneva, but it appears that they were protecting Eisenhower from the war-like Swiss and making things safe for the peace conference of the Big Four.

Bulgarian arrived with a much smaller escort; Eden was met by Swiss guards, and we do not quite know who looked after M. Faure. But they came into Geneva and went out again to their meetings in the Palais de Nations. Geneva itself seemed little affected though it was amusing to see the Soviet flag on public buildings together with the other three and the Swiss flag. There were varying orders of preference which must have involved great use of tact.

Meantime the summit talks proceeded (a newspaper heading "Summit Blows Up" was discovered to refer only to Mount Etna) in seclusion through which the journalists made their guesses. Less guardedly (but still with a soldier at the bottom of the road) yet nevertheless less publicly, the Council of the War Resisters' International also met, a few miles away from the Big Four. It was a quiet, businesslike meeting.

There were no outstanding policy decisions for these can come only from the International Conference. This year's Council tied up many administrative matters, starting with a welcome to Arlo Tatum as the most recent addition to the staff and welcoming a ready offer by Grace Beaton after nearly thirty years as Secretary, to share her responsibility with Arlo as co-secretary.

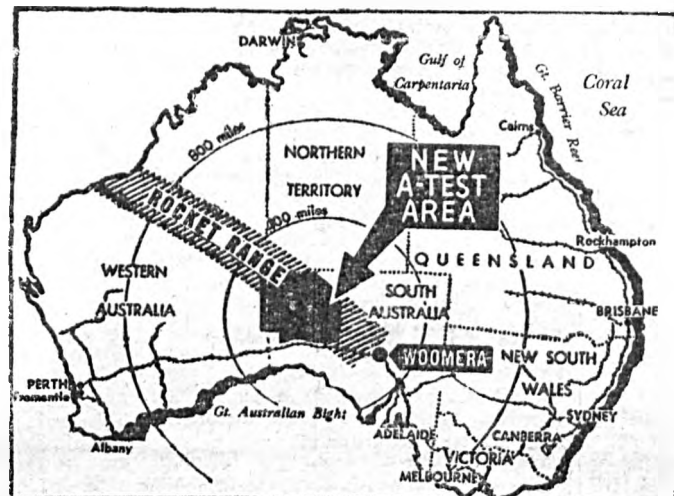
As Arlo was welcomed, Tony Bishop, who joined the staff at a difficult time of emergency two years ago, was given a farewell vote of appreciation as he resigns his office and will be returning in August to Australia.

The Paris Conference of the WRI a year ago was almost entirely devoted to the idea of "the third way" and the Council this time met with the knowledge that a Third Way Movement is now in being, and that a Conference of that Movement will be held in London shortly. The WRI Council was not yet able to offer unreserved support to the new Movement but will send an observer to the Conference.

The Council gave a great deal of thought to the possibility of widening the War Resisters' declaration, as so many pacifist organisations go through the same exercise from time to time. There was a clear feeling that no change in the wording can usefully

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BRITAIN TO BE ASKED: WHAT WOULD YOU DO ABOUT THE H-BOMB?



This big area of South Australia was earlier this year proclaimed a security-protected area for British atomic weapons tests. The tests were understood to be taking place later in 1955 and the site was to have become a permanent one for testing atomic devices if it proved suitable. Recent warnings on the dangers of fall-out and continued contamination over wide areas may have caused some hesitation in the tests programme. It is also hoped that tests may have been halted in order to improve the climate for the Big Four Talks.

If tests continue in Australia, it is unlikely that they could include H-bomb tests since the area of fall-out might easily endanger inhabited areas. It is certain that there would be considerable protest from the Australian people.

In Parliament last week BRITISH H-TESTS Mr Butler hedges

From our Parliamentary Correspondent

MR. R. A. BUTLER, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is a past master in the art of Parliamentary evasion. He delights his supporters with some of his vague generalities when answering even the most searching questions, but infuriates the seekers after information.

A perfect example of this art of prevarication was witnessed in the House of Commons last week when, taking the place of the Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, who was at the Geneva conference, he replied to questions on nuclear explosions.

Stop experiments

The questioning was opened by Mr. George Thomas (Lab., Cardiff, W.) who asked whether the Prime Minister was satisfied that adequate precautions would be taken to prevent injury to people in other countries from clouds of radioactive dust when the British hydrogen bomb was exploded; and if he would make a statement.

Mr. Butler, with an air of diplomacy, merely replied: "The answer to the first part of the question is 'yes, sir' and to the second part 'no, sir'."

This non-committal reply irritated Mr. Thomas, who declared that Mr. Butler's complacency was not shared by people outside.

"The scientists of the world do not share your complacency on this question," he told the Chancellor. "There is no responsible person who agrees that it is yet possible to prevent air currents carrying this dust to other lands and other peoples. Would it not be more civilised to stop the experiment altogether?"

Mr. Butler remained unruffled. "The answer to the latter part of the supplementary question is 'no sir'."

And he added that there was no question of complacency in the reply he gave on behalf of the Prime Minister "which had been most carefully thought out with the best scientific information available."

The answer, Mr. Butler admitted was, if anything, cautious but not complacent.

Practical step

His attitude led Mr. Herbert Morrison (Lab., Lewisham, S.) to join in. Was Mr. Butler satisfied, he asked, that there was no risk of trouble for other people as a result of these explosions?

"Have the Government considered holding up the experiment—by international agreement, not by us acting alone—pending the discussions at Geneva, as an outcome of which we hope this business will be stopped altogether?" he demanded.

Mr. Butler was not to be drawn.

□ ON BACK PAGE

**Join in these
HIROSHIMA DAY
MEETINGS**
Saturday August 6
LONDON. March followed by Meeting in Hyde park.
BRISTOL. Open-air meeting on Durden Downs.
Full details, Diary, Page Five

Cain in the Cockpit

Next week, in a special Tenth Anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima number, *Peace News* will print the text of one of the most moving peace appeals it has published in recent years: a speech made by the famous Dutch pilot, *Adriaan Viruly*. The following is an extract:

"I am your fatherland. You must love me, pilot."

"I do love you."

"Then you must be prepared to die for me. It has always been thus."

"I will if need be."

"Then you must also live for me in the way I want you to."

"Very well, I will give you part of my freedom."

"Then you must also be prepared to kill for me."

"Nonsense. I have travelled the whole world. Men are alike everywhere. The Bible says that we must not kill and that we ought to love our neighbours. I will not kill."

"You must. You will kill one soldier. Perhaps two. Perhaps three. That is the law of the fatherland."

"If that is the law I will do it, however much I loathe it."

"Good. And the 6th August, 1945, is a special day. Then you must go and kill 60,000 citizens and 10,000 children for me—at Hiroshima. Good luck to you."

"That I will not do."

"You must. It is the law of the fatherland."

"If that is the law I will go and kill them all."

"Good. And in 1960 you must kill 50,000 children. And in 1975 a whole million in one flight and in one second. We shall be able to do that then. And in 1990 all the children in the world."

"You cannot mean it."

"But I do. I am the fatherland. You must. Long live our flag."

Make sure of your copy now. Order an extra dozen copies to pass on to friends at 2s. 6d. post free from 3 Blackstock Road, N.4. Repeat . . . order now.

END THE CALL-UP

Let Britain show that she means peace—George Craddock

MR. GEORGE CRADDOCK, MP, has been appointed Chairman of the No Conscription Council, in place of Mr. T. Foley who has had to retire after much useful service in that capacity because of pressure of work. Mr. Foley continues to serve on the Council and is a member of its Executive Committee.

Referring to the Geneva Four Power Conference, Mr. Craddock told *Peace News* that in his view a positive initiative from Britain that would help to resolve differences would be the abandonment of conscription as an act of faith.

"Let the Prime Minister announce that Britain is ready to renounce compulsory military training as a contribution to world peace. This system, so alien to our traditions, is a poisonous element in international affairs. Whole generations are being trained to bear arms and to regard preparation for war, and war itself, as part of the normal pattern of life."

"I can think of no other politically possible gesture which would have an effect on international relations comparably to this act of renunciation."

First coloured man to sit on the New York State Supreme Court, is Judge Harold A. Stevens. He was sworn in on July 6.

Do you think Britain would be justified in using the Hydrogen Bomb?

At last the British public is to be asked this question directly. And not only this. They are to be asked questions on disarmament—how, when, who first?; human rights and the future of the UN.

This up-to-the-minute enquiry is being conducted by the United Nations Association in a questionnaire now being sent out to groups of people all over the country. Intended primarily for group consideration, it is accompanied by a short discussion guide.

TOM WARDLE writes:

Do you belong to a discussion group in your party, church, trade union or peace movement?

If you do, there is an excellent opportunity for you to do a little peace education in the shape of a Citizens' Enquiry recently published by the United Nations Association.

The Enquiry is in the form of a Questionnaire divided into sections covering aspects of international problems—"The scourge of war"; "Better standards of life"; "To unite our strength."

To help with the discussion, the United Nations Association has produced a sixpenny discussion guide which introduces the topics and poses the questions raised by them. There are questions on unilateral disarmament, collective security, the H-bomb, racial equality, aid to needy countries and the worthwhileness of the UN.

This is a very important questionnaire. It is not intended to be a public opinion poll as it is being addressed to groups and is meant to be completed after serious discussion and thought. But the results will be published, although the identity of groups will not be disclosed. It should thus go far towards stimulating public interest in the issues raised, and the discussion which it provokes will be invaluable.

The Enquiry is being conducted in connection with the tenth anniversary of the United Nations which falls on October 24 this year.

The discussion guide (price 7½d. post free) with questionnaire, is available from the United Nations Association, 25 Charles Street, London, W.1. The enquiry will end on December 12 this year.

GENEVA

THERE is no need to be disappointed at the absence of any settlements, signed and sealed, deriving from the Geneva talks.

It will probably take a considerable time for the representatives of the Powers to arrive at anything tangible that they can put on paper, and when they are able to do this they will not have moved very far towards creating the conditions of a world in which war is no longer to be feared.

That world will be a different kind of world from the one we live in, and some very radical political and economic changes will be required before it will be achieved.

We must never forget, for instance, that a policy of genuine disarmament will mean that the labour and resources represented by the £13,000 millions the USA is spending each year on war preparations will have to be diverted in some other direction; and a change of this immensity cannot be carried through without radical changes of outlook on the part of the great majority of American politicians, whether Republican or Democrat.

The most we can gain from the changed attitudes that have made Geneva possible is a readiness to fix attention on the real political and economic problems of peace instead of blinding ourselves in the mists of hate and putting responsibility for every ill on "the potential aggressor."

The fact that the statesmen have come together for talks, have decided nothing except that there shall be further talks, and have separated in an atmosphere of amity is of the first importance. It is much more hopeful than would be a situation in which they had tried to make prospects of peace depend on some trifling measure of agreement.

We live in a world with a great deal of politically inflammable material spread around, while in the middle of it there are the nuclear and thermo-nuclear contrivances that can blow us all to smithereens. What has been decided at Geneva is that the torch dance that the Powers have been carrying on round this inflammable material shall go on no longer. This means a great deal. It does not mean that we no longer live in the most dangerous world that mankind has known; it does mean, however, that it has at last been decided that we shall no longer conduct ourselves as madmen in that world.

July 29th 1955

PEACE NEWS

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War is wrong, an unmitigated evil. Freedom won through bloodshed or fraud is not freedom.

—GANDHI.

Mr. Ehrenburg and Mr. Harris

WE publish this week on page six an appeal from a number of pacifists from different countries who attended the World Assembly for Peace in Helsinki, in which they urge that in future there should be participation in assemblies of this kind by pacifist organisations.

The actual basis and method of organising the Assembly is not a matter with which we wish to concern ourselves now, although it is a subject that must be discussed in considering the proposal made by the signatories to the appeal.

It might be possible for a world meeting to be arranged at which representatives from all lands, pacifists as well as non-pacifists, could come together for discussion and decision on matters affecting the peace of the world with a real assurance that they are really controlling their own deliberations. Before this falls to be dealt with, however, we need to face squarely the point that we began to discuss here last week.

In a conference such as that at Helsinki the position of delegates from countries having a single-party political system is inevitably completely different from those from countries in which there are a number of contending parties. While delegates from the latter might be expressing a variety of views, some or all of which could be at variance with the policies of the governments of the countries from which they came, the former would only be able to be present if they were in close agreement with the policies of their governments.

We can only consider seriously whether a comprehensive World Peace Conference, however organised, can be of value if we do not lose sight of this fact. It is wrong to imagine that an assembly of the kind that met at Helsinki can function in any respect in the same way as, for instance, the Conference of the Labour and Socialist International that met in London shortly afterwards.

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Many who have been present at Helsinki or at previous international gatherings arranged by the World Peace Council insist that there is not only genuine discussion but that there is also genuine give and take on both sides in formulating the conclusions of the Assembly both in the general declaration and in the reports of the commissions.

That there may be concessions on the part of Mrs. Phoebe Cusden, Mr. Theodore Harris, or Mr. Charles Marland—or looking at the French delegation, M. Cot or M. Sartre—raises no special problem at all. In most cases these will be answerable to no-one but themselves when they return to their own lands; at the most they will be answerable to some organisation having no governmental responsibility.

When Mr. Ehrenburg and Mr. Korneichuk make concessions it is quite a different matter. These concessions will either have to be within an agreed negotiating margin settled before they left Russia or there will have had to be consultation between the delegation from Russia and the Russian authorities during the proceedings so that the Russians will know that they are entitled to go so far. This will also apply to the delegations from other countries having single-party government.

It is obvious that Mr. Ehrenburg could not return to Russia, as Mr. Harris can return to Britain, to announce that he has endorsed a view in opposition to the policy of his government.

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We do not point this out in any sense as an adverse criticism of the way the delegations must operate, for what it means is that at these assemblies the "single party" delegations are present with a quasi-diplomatic status in contrast with those of the West who, generally speaking, have no status other than in some cases being representative of certain sections of opinion in their own countries.

When therefore Mr. Ehrenburg and Mr. Korneichuk make concessions they are actually in a position of committing their government. This is a factor that may more than compensate in such a conference for their lack of personal independence; and may also be regarded as a point in favour of the view that pacifist organisations should be represented at these assemblies.

The first thing, however, is that it should be recognised that this is the basis on which the Assembly must meet.

This important point recognised, it becomes of profit to discuss the organisational conditions upon which there might be co-operation.

Middle-West Holiday

THIS week's letter is being written on a farm in Indiana. I have been vacationing by driving with some members of the family to see others in the Mid-Western states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana.

I can remember back to the eighteen-nineties when—to us whose parents worked in factories and managed to make a living on a 54 to 60 hour week, if they had a steady job—the word "farmer" was a synonym for poverty, grueling work and mortgages. I remember, of course, the depression in agriculture which followed World War I and lasted nearly to the end of the Thirties.

The Press in this region has been pointing out in connection with the visit of the Russian farm officials in Iowa this week that bumper crops are virtually assured throughout the region this year. A glance out of the car window anywhere confirms this forecast. As I ate my breakfast this morning, July 20, I looked out of the window from which less than six weeks ago I saw black earth in which corn was being planted every day. Now the corn (maize), stand five feet tall and lush.

"New churches everywhere"

Under the Eisenhower administration these farmers are not so prosperous as they were a few years ago, but they still share in the fabulous productivity of the American technology and economy.

One of my nephews in his very early teens exclaimed the other day as we passed a Church

building in process of erection: "They're putting up new churches everywhere."

The statistics bear out that remark too. The church is not for most of these people the object of religious devotion and the cultural centre which it was for their parents or immigrant grandparents. But it is for them an essential part of "the American way of life," and one of the things that distinguishes us from the "atheistic Russians and Communists," and it shares in the material prosperity. When a congregation puts up a new church nowadays it has to buy or rent a big adjoining plot of land on which automobiles are parked during the Sunday morning service.

Triumph for militarism

It is, of course, impossible to evaluate, in a couple of paragraphs, the quality of life among these people today compared to one or two generations before. Not all the observations in a more extensive presentation would be negative ones, as are those I am about to make.

In the first place this region was strongly anti-militarist before the First World War. It is the country which produced and idolized Robert M. L. Follette, William Jennings Bryan and Eugene Debs. Multitudes of the men had left Europe to escape conscription. Between the World Wars it was the centre of "isolationism."

Now every young man in tolerably good health spend two years in military service. The COs, except in Mennonite communities

□ FROM PAGE ONE

Since the Commission's report was published "authoritative sources" in America have denied the statements it contains.

These "authoritative sources" however are such people as Mr. Strauss, Chairman of the US Atomic Energy Commission and Mr. Libby, also a member of the Commission. However authoritative they may be on the technical aspects of the development of atomic energy and atomic weapons they are not regarded anywhere in the world as being authoritative on the subject here discussed.

In this connection they are regarded rather as being on trial.

When there is an examination of the consequences of the test explosion of March 1, 1954 by a competent body of scientists under UN or other official auspices we may be able to regard this as finally authoritative. Until this happens the report of the international commission holds the field.

Germany's future

IT was made quite evident shortly before the "Summit" meeting that there will be no early agreement on the reunification of Germany.

On the same day when, a fortnight before Geneva, Sir Anthony Eden made a speech urging that there should be a united Germany, an article appeared in Pravda making it clear that there could be no German unification with Germany remaining inside NATO.

So that there should be no doubt about the Russian attitude, Marshal Bulganin specifically answered Sir Anthony's speech in a statement that rejected the British Premier's suggestion. None of the participants at Geneva, therefore, could have expected any real approach to the settlement of the German question, and it is obvious that as matters now stand, diplomatically Russia has everything to gain by waiting.

When the question of a future reunified Germany comes to be seriously discussed, the main participants will not be the Four Powers, but Germany and Russia, when Germany has made headway with the construction of its army; and it should be remembered that it is rather improbable that Dr. Adenauer, who is an aged man, will be the spokesman for the German Government.

It is not only the question of Germany's future military affiliations that is involved but also the thorny question of the German-Polish frontier. There are all the ingredients here for an ultimate Russo-German deal. The dangerous possibilities that are inherent are not to be avoided by seeking to bind Germany more tightly to the West in a military sense, but only by seeking to change the whole basis of diplomacy by a policy of demilitarisation.

From two sides to four powers

ONE minor aspect of the Geneva talks that is not without value in bringing to an end the psychology of the cold war was that there was no formal agreement among the three Western Powers on the pronouncements that the spokesmen of each were to make.

President Eisenhower, M. Faure and Sir Anthony Eden did not confine themselves to putting forward suggestions that had been agreed upon in advance. The Conference was thus really a Conference of Four and not of three meeting one.

It was doubtless taken for granted that the repeated consultations of the representatives of the USA, France and Britain in the past had given them a sufficient community outlook on the issues to be dealt with. Nevertheless the difference is not without its value and may lead to important developments in future talks.

When Sir Anthony Eden (or President Eisenhower) can find himself aligned with Bulganin against the other two on some issue without being subject to a charge of breaking allied unity, or without such a development being attributed

and among Jehovah's Witnesses are very few. The schools, including the church schools and colleges, and the churches themselves, accept this as belonging to the fixed nature of things.

Bright young men from poorer families with a technical or scientific bent get into officers' training in order to get high-class training at little or no cost—from an administration which, of course, believes in private and not state enterprise and systematically fails to give adequate support to the general educational system. Not a wedding announcement that fails to mention that the groom is or was in such a branch of military service.

Not McCarthyites

It is in accord with this pattern that during this month in Illinois and in North Dakota, a little to the West and North, laws requiring Loyalty Oaths of all public employees and especially teachers go into effect. It is possible that a handful of people may quietly get other jobs. The chances that as many as ten people in the two states will make a clean cut issue in the matter are slim.

It is not that these people are McCarthyites, and they feel no intense devotion to the pattern which includes universal military training and periodical oath-taking. But your job and your social status depend upon conformity. Moreover—and this rounds out my random reflections—the material standard of living is pretty high, which cuts the foundation from under mass revolt and makes the price of individual independence high. The parallel of the camel

BEHIND THE NEWS

to some devilish Communist machinations, we shall know that a beginning has been made in dealing with something in terms other than those of the power struggle.

The Kabaka goes home

ONE of the most satisfying things about the otherwise shameful affair of the Buganda Kabaka's enforced exile in this country has been the effect that Mutesa's own deportment, and that of the various Buganda delegations, has had on colonial officials.

A note of restraint, dignity and genuine courtesy has been maintained throughout. In the face of what was undoubtedly a humiliating blow to the Buganda people, they and their representatives, as well as the subject of that humiliation himself, have preserved an attitude that bespeaks non-violence of a high order.

Any other attitude may not have resulted in the kind of settlement that has now been reached; it certainly would not have resulted in the public tribute to the Kabaka and his delegations—"it is a pleasure to work with such people," which came from the lips of the Colonial Secretary himself.

The restoration of the Kabaka is a total reversal of the former decision to ban him for all time. It represents a tremendous achievement not only for the Buganda but for all oppressed peoples everywhere. Congratulations to them.

Nevertheless, the concessions demanded for the Kabaka's return involve a surrender of a portion of Buganda sovereignty to the Uganda Government.

Any increase of the power of centralised government is always a bad thing in itself, but in this case it is an increase in the power of a colonial government dominated by whites and appointed colonialists.

Recent events in Uganda have not increased confidence that the Colonial Office's declared intention of making Uganda an African state will be adhered to. It will be necessary to watch Uganda affairs with care to ensure that the return of the Kabaka is not used by the Colonial Government to the disadvantage of his people.

Why conscript Austria?

IT is greatly to be regretted that Austria, independent for the first time since Hitler's enforced "anschluss" is likely to carry into law a bill providing for military conscription.

The Bill is not likely to become law until the Autumn and the call-up of men for training will not begin to operate until the spring of 1956. In the meantime there is to be a force of 7,000 gendarmes, equipped with light weapons.

It is difficult to see what the Austrian Government hopes to gain by the resumption of conscription. It can add nothing to the security of the country, even applying military criteria, by such a measure, and it could obviously use the man-power so diverted to better purposes.

On the other hand without conscription it would be a much more important political factor in Europe, for a non-conscript Austria would provide an example of individual freedom to its neighbour states on both sides in the power struggle. It is in fact highly probable that this measure is being adopted in response to pressures from both sides in the negotiation of the Austrian Treaty.

We have yet to learn whether any provision is proposed in the Bill for the

legal recognition of conscientious objection.

Coventry and "Civil Defence"

THE about-turn on Civil Defence by the Coventry City Council does not signify that the members responsible for the earlier decision now hold the view that there can be effective protection in atomic warfare.

Indeed, it is an ironical fact that defence measures are today even more unrelated to the character of the threat than they were when the City Council took its decision not to co-operate with the Government on CD.

On the one hand the government is unable to put forward any plans that cannot immediately be seen as derisory in relation to the threat with which they are supposed to deal; on the other the further information now available regarding the character and consequences of exploding the uranium-cased bomb that was tested on March 1 last year shows that the character of the problem with which civil defence purports to deal is vastly greater than it was thought to be at the time of the earlier decision.

All that has happened is that the Government by appointing three Commissioners to administer CD in place of the Council, was able to associate the appointment with financial arrangements that penalised Coventry. In reaching its decision to resume in full the carrying out of the functions undertaken by the Government, the Council, under the leadership of Alderman Stringer who was leader in the earlier move, has given way to this financial pressure.

Alderman Stringer has also probably been under pressure from Labour Party Headquarters, from which came last week the preposterous report on civil defence that has already been commented upon in our columns.

Crisis in Malaya

EVER since the end of World War II there has been a crisis in Malaya. The recent refusal of the Colonial Office to talk surrender terms with the mainland insurgents was an example of how it has behaved so far. It is to be hoped that it will not so behave in the case of the constitutional crisis now brewing in the island of Singapore.

If the policy of the British Government to promote self-government for the colonies is sincere, it must surely take note of the readiness of Singapore to take a long step in that direction now. The new Singapore Constitution could be the means to that end, or it could be the source of serious bitterness and hate.

If violent revolutionary movements with their inevitably sorry consequences are to be avoided in the colonial world, it will only be through rapid progress towards independence along democratic lines. Even in Colonial Office terms, Singapore is every bit as ready for independence as, say, the Gold Coast. But the island is of enormous strategic importance to Britain militarily and commercially. It is vital also for the retention of Malaya—biggest dollar-earning colony in the Empire.

Independence for Singapore, therefore, is a question replete with huge implications for Britain. The likely solution to the military problem as Britain sees it would, no doubt, be incorporation in SEATO. Another, less likely alternative, would be to place the island under the control of the United Nations military staff committee. By far the most preferable would be the neutralisation of the island and the dismantling of military installations through agreement at UN.

The solution to the economic problem which Singapore independence would mean for Britain is not so easy to define. It lies in the progressive construction of our home economy making us less dependent for our livelihood on exports which demand the colossal advantages of access to raw materials which colonialism makes possible.

Letter from U.S.A. by A. J. Muste

and the needle's eye is frequently read in the churches, but its relevance to all this is not noted.

The "Call to Repentance"

I want to mention one other matter. It may reach readers of the American air-mail edition in time to be of some use in connection with the August 6-7 observances of the Tenth Anniversary of Hiroshima.

The "Call to Repentance" which the American Fellowship of Reconciliation has been circulating begins by pointing to the United States as the initiator of atomic warfare and in its conclusion declares: "no people has a moral right to drop H-bombs on another people at any time for any reason and that this realisation should become the basis of US national policy, has already received a number of notable signatures. They include Lewis Mumford, author; Edwin Dahlberg, noted Baptist clergyman and member of the Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches; Henry J. Cadbury, Chairman of the American Friends Service Committee; A. Philip Randolph, President of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Bishop W. Appleton Lawrence; Rabbi Isidor B. Hoffman, counsellor of students at Columbia University; and A. Stauffer Curry, Moderator of the Church of the Brethren.

Readers will recognise the "Call to Repentance" as the text of my Letter from USA of July 15.

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RELIGIOUS NEWS AND VIEWS

a monthly column contributed

by

STUART MORRIS

LET THE POPE DECIDE

Prof. Ude appeals to
Dr. Adenauer

PROFESSOR UDE, who is a member
of the Austrian Section of the War
Resisters International and also of the
WRI Council, has addressed a long and
reasoned appeal to Dr. Adenauer.

Writing as a Catholic priest and a retired
university professor to a fellow-Catholic he
claims that the future
of the German
people depends on
the Chancellor's decision
as to how to
implement the Com-
mandment "Thou
shalt not kill."

On the more posi-
tive side he stresses
the implications of
the Commandment
"Love your enemies"
and points out that
if the Command-
ments are valid all
militarism is, with-
out exception, con-
demned as sinful and
the rearmament of
Western Germany a
grave offence against
God.

Professor Ude
urges that for
the Chancellor to force the majority of
Western Germans, who do not wish for arma-
ments, to finance a policy of which they dis-
approve and to take up arms would be an
unprecedented invasion of conscience.

He claims that the Commandments are
valid without exception, but recognises that
that is a "moot question" between Catholics
since no authoritative decision has been given
by the Pope.

If Dr. Adenauer thinks that such views
are heretical, Professor Ude challenges him
to apply to Rome for a final settlement of
any doubts by "an infallible doctrinal
decision."

The full text of Professor Ude's letter has
been published in English by the New York
Catholic Worker.

On the occasion of the visit of the Russian
Delegation to this country, an address of
friendship, in Russian and English, was sent
to the Metropolitan Pitirim (representing
H. B. Alexei, Patriarch of Moscow), from the
Evangelical Catholic Communion.

It was signed by two Bishops and a number
of Clergy and people.

After an assurance "of our fraternal good-
will towards all our fellow Christians in the
USSR," the Address continued, "especially we
desire to greet as our brethren in Christ
the Clergy and people of the Holy Orthodox
Church within Your Patriarchate."

"Holding faithfully the same historic Faith
transmitted from the Apostles and Fathers,
unaltered by the changing passions of the
world, and sharing the same Sacraments, we
are indeed united with you in our prayer for
worldwide peace and brotherhood. We
earnestly desire peace, freedom from fear and
the removal of all causes of hostility and inter-
national tension."

Whilst the Evangelical Catholic Communion
is not in any official sense a pacifist Church,
quite a number of its members are very active
in the cause of peace and social justice.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has drawn a
parallel between political apartheid in South
Africa, of which he has been outspoken in
condemnation, and ecclesiastical apartheid
which prevents unity among the Churches.

The Archbishop does not envisage the
ending of division and separation for a long
time to come, but urges that the temper of
mind in the Churches and in political systems
must be to outgrow divisions and strengthen
partnership.

Dr. Leslie Weatherhead in his presidential
address to the Methodist Conference stated
that although there was a great chance open
before the Churches, "for all they knew
they might be the last generation to be given
a chance on earth." He contrasted the "glar-
ing inadequacy of religion as it was purveyed
from hundreds of pulpits" with the "efficient
aggressiveness of Communism."

ON PAGE FIVE

What is Welsh Nationalism?

If you are for peace you are for national
freedom. Send for

"What is Welsh Nationalism?"
by H. W. J. Edwards 6d (x 14)

"Historical Basis of Welsh Nationalism"
Ed. D. Myrddin Lloyd 7s 6d (x 64)

And List of Publications
PLAID CYMRU (Welsh Party) OFFICES
8 Queen Street Cardiff

New Zealand magistrate attacks call-up Act

COs "GAOLED UNWILLINGLY"

The following report comes from the New Zealand Herald, one of the country's
leading daily newspapers.

DESCRIBING New Zealand's Military Training Act, as "one of the most inept
pieces of legislation on the Statute Book," Mr. S. L. Paterson, sentenced two
conscientious objectors each to six weeks' imprisonment, when they appeared
before him in the Hamilton (N.Z.) Magistrate's Court on June 30.

The accused, Lucien Raymond Hansen, aged 22, and Reginald Clarence Hansen, aged
20, both of the Hansen "Beeville" Community
at Orini, pleaded not guilty to charges of
breaches of probation. In April they were both
placed on probation for one year for failing
to report for medical examination under the
Military Training Act, 1949.

FAILED TO REPORT

Prosecuting, Mr. K. I. Sandford remarked
that the magistrate was well aware of the
history of the two accused. A conscientious
objectors' committee had failed to recognise
them as such and last year they were placed
on the military service register and ordered to
report for a medical examination. When they
failed to do so they were prosecuted and
placed on probation.

They refused to carry out civil work and
new prosecutions proved fruitless. Ordered
again to report for a medical examination
they did not and appeared again in Court last
April. The Hamilton Probation Officer, Mr.
F. Grinlinton, said that the two accused told
him after being placed on probation that they
would have nothing further to do with an
order of the Court.

ORIGIN OF TROUBLE

Lucien Hansen said that the trouble arose
from the refusal of the objectors' committee
to recognise them as conscientious objectors.

Reginald Hansen said that the law had
tried to identify him with the criminal classes
by placing him on probationary license, a
thing designed for criminals. If he accepted
punishment he would only help the law to
penalise him for remaining true to his
conscience.

"I have no wish to go against the law,"
he added, "but if it identifies me with
criminals I can find no respect for it."

The Magistrate said that the Hansens had
not brought a proper defence. He was quite
prepared to concede to Reginald Hansen's
remarks concerning the Military Training Act.
It was inept and as it made no provision for
imprisonment for offenders it appeared it was
not the Government's policy to imprison.

Mr. Sandford pointed out that imprisonment
was provided for a breach of probation.

"I agree with Reginald Hansen," said Mr.
Paterson, "that it is fundamentally wrong to
apply a penal Act dealing with criminals to

UN to hold world meeting on delinquency

HOW can society detect, diagnose and treat
the behaviour problems of children before
they become delinquent?

What are the best ways to treat adult
criminals for a return to normal life? Which
of them can profit from living in wall-less
institutions instead of in close prisons?

The answers to these and other questions
on how to prevent crime and treat offenders
will be probed by the first United Nations
world congress on the subject which will
begin a series of meetings on August 22 in
Geneva.

Some 400 specialists from all over the world
will take part in the discussions. Among them
will be professors of criminology and research
workers, prison wardens, juvenile court judges,
physicians and social workers.

Some of the delegates will be official repre-
sentatives of their governments—85 govern-
ments, including the 60 members of the United
Nations have been invited. Others will rep-
resent the specialized agencies and non-govern-
mental organisations. Still others with a pro-
fessional interest in the field will attend as
individuals—members of courts for instance.

Juvenile delinquency and treatment of adult
criminals are, of course, recognized as serious
problems by many governments and there has
been a good deal of research on the subjects.
But many problems still remain. By pooling
the ideas and experience gained from dealing
with the problems all over the world, it is
expected that the Congress will help step up
progress in many countries.

Part of the social approach of the United
Nations is to stress prevention rather than
treatment of delinquents. The congress will
have before it as a basis for discussion a
report prepared by the UN Secretariat which
summarises the results of recent regional and
international conferences on juvenile delin-
quency.

The problem of improving conditions in
many of the world's prisons is also high on
the Congress' agenda. A basic set of rules to
guide countries in the treatment of prisoners
will be completed by the Congress.

The international penal experts will also
explore the value of open institutions in treat-
ing offenders. An open institution is one
where self-discipline replaces bars and armed
guards, and which tries as nearly as possible
to resemble normal living quarters. Recom-
mendations adopted by the congress will be
sent to the UN Secretary-General and to the
Social Commission of the Economic and Social
Council. It is expected that some of the recom-
mendations will be passed on to governments
by the Council.

A FIVER!

A memory of my childhood
is seeing a £5 note.

It was an awe-inspiring
occasion. I still think my
mother thought, as I did, that
some awful fate might over-
take both it and us before the
precious piece of paper was
safely lodged at the bank: a
freak gust of wind would get
into the house and blow it out of her hand
into the fire, or else it would burst into flames
of its own volition.

All this came back to me the other day as
I opened a letter from one of our readers.
Inside was a £5 note. It is safely banked.

Fivers terrify me. If they have the same
effect on you, should you happen to receive one,
send it to Peace News. We'll bank it quickly,
and we have a safe. We do need fivers if we
are to reach our target of £2,000 by Dec. 31.

HUGH BROCK.

Contributions since July 15: £31 10s. 4d.
Total since January 1, 1955: £1,021 18s. 1d.

Please make cheques, etc., payable to Peace
News Ltd., and address them to Lady Clare
Annesley, Joint Treasurer, Peace News, 3
Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

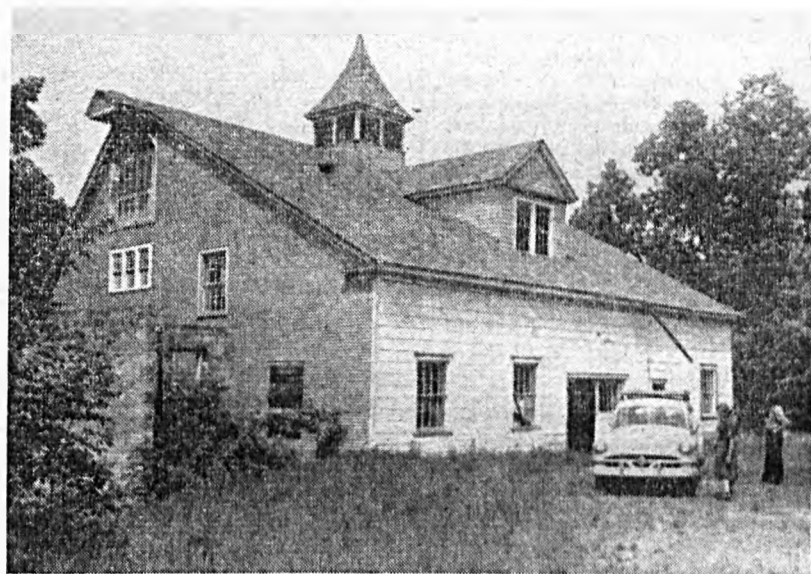
'Free Chris Rees'—Labour youth

From Ted Berrow

A RESOLUTION condemning the "ex-
tremely harsh sentence passed upon
Christopher Rees, the Welsh Nationalist paci-
fist who refused to be conscripted," and calling
for his immediate release has been passed by
the Surrey Federation of Labour League of
Youth.

They demand the amendment of the law
relating to Conscientious Objectors "so as to
allow adequate scope for political objection to
military service."

The Federation has called on many occa-
sions for the abolition of conscription.



The woodworking shop at the new American Bruderhof at Woodcrest, New York State. The Woodcrest property has 96 acres of hilly, wooded land with about 30 acres of tillable soil. It is about 90 miles north of New York City. Membership has grown to about 100 members, including children, since the property was purchased in July last year.

The Bruderhof expand their work IN GERMANY AGAIN AFTER 18 YEARS

IN under-developed Paraguay, where superstition combines with extreme climatic
conditions to undermine the people's health, the Society of Brothers, a religious
group with an uncompromising attitude to war, have completed over fourteen
years of devoted medical service at the Primavera community.

They began the project from scratch,
going out into the countryside to cut the
bamboo laths and thatch-grass needed to
complete the first part of what is now
the Primavera Hospital.

Faced with many difficulties, greatest of
which have been the lack of good roads
for transporting the patients to hospital,
and shortage of nurses, the staff maintains
its continuous struggle against malaria,
leprosy, smallpox and hookworm, averag-
ing ten thousand patients a year.

NEW GERMAN CENTRE

After an absence of 18 years, the Society
of Brothers are opening a new centre in
Germany, the land in which the movement
was born.

The new Bruderhof is in a large house
belonging to the Castle of Hohenstein near
Hersbruck and Nuremberg. Six members of
the Wheathill Bruderhof (England) went as
founder members shortly after Easter this year.

The Nothelfergemeinschaft der Freunde, an
organisation which began in Germany after



the last war, has planned an International
Work Camp for the Wheathill Bruderhof, from
July 17 to August 27. It is hoped that during
this period the Work Camp will erect some
wooden buildings which will help solve the
acute housing problem of the community.

The New York 28 applaud scientists' declaration

THE Executive of the Provisional Defence
Committee set up on behalf of the 28
Civil Defence demonstrators in New York,
applauds the statement signed by the
nine eminent scientists pointing out that
man's choice is between war and the extinc-
tion of the human race.

The 28 pacifists arrested on June 15 during
the civil defence drill with signs saying "End
War—The Only Defence Against Atomic
Weapons," were trying to say very much what
the scientists said.

In the courts the committee's attorneys
will call upon scientists to substantiate the
position taken by the demonstrators—that
there is no defence against H-bombs.

The committee is now raising funds to
carry the case to the Supreme Court if neces-
sary. Those in the USA interested in con-
tributing should make cheques payable to:
Provisional Defence Committee or A. J. Muste
and sent to Room 825, 5 Beekman St., New
York 38, N.Y.

The executive committee of the Provisional
Defence Committee include Bess Cameron of
the Women's International League for Peace
and Freedom, Ralph DiGiia and Bayard Rustin
of the War Resisters League, Robert Gilmore
of the American Friends Service Committee,
Mike Harrington of the Catholic Worker, and
A. J. Muste of the Fellowship of Reconcilia-
tion.

Pioneers of the new Africa-3.

FATHER AYROUT

By Reginald Reynolds

For these articles the author draws on experiences gained during a slow journey through Africa two years ago, from Cairo to the Cape. In his previous articles he has written of Robin Hodgkin of Bakht er Ruda and Alec Dickson of Man-O'-War Bay. On August 12 readers will be introduced to the Mayor of Port Elizabeth, Adolph Schauder, known to the African population as Songeba (Man of Mercy); a surprising contrast in the nation that has developed the policy of apartheid.

When I was in Egypt, two years ago, I was interested in the enthusiasm for education. I found much the same enthusiasm all the way from Cairo to Cape Town; but it was in Egypt that I was first made aware of it and of the efforts to meet the demand.

It was not only because of his interest in village education that I sought out the great Jesuit Father Ayroul. It was because I was about to travel South, through what is called "Upper" Egypt, a land of few towns and many villages; and by general recognition Father Ayroul is the leading authority on the Egyptian peasants, the *fellaheen*.

So I met the Jesuit Father many times and came to know him well. I also met his colleagues—the Jesuits of the Coptic Catholic Church, a small body of devoted workers. I am a Quaker myself, but I always found them friendly, courteous and helpful. One of them took me, on one occasion, to a Protestant Orphanage and all the time he spoke in praise of what he saw. There are so few people trying to do so much among the poor, the oppressed and the ignorant that there is no room for petty jealousy. All the best people knew that—from Cairo to the Cape.

Father Ayroul came into prominence in Egypt during the war years. Catholic schools heavily subsidised from abroad were threatened with extinction when the war made financial aid from Europe impossible. It was Father Ayroul who saved the existing schools from extinction and boldly launched an extension programme. By the time I arrived in Cairo the 125 schools controlled by his organisation (the Catholic Association) had become the biggest single group of independent schools. They had started, in the war, with 392 Egyptian pounds, and in ten years they had spent over a hundred thousand. They still had—in Father Ayroul's words—"no capital, no security, no regular income, but plenty of faith, hope and love."

Although I saw some of these schools I do not want to write about them here. It was the man, Father Ayroul, who interested me most; and his work for the schools was only part of his mission. His educational work arose directly from the fact that he felt for the poor as much as any man I met on my long journey. His devotion had won him the admiration and even the active support of Moslems, Jews and members of other Christian Churches, because in the last analysis it is not the label which counts but the man.

Father Ayroul himself sees that and has expressed it in word and deed. Quoting a favourite author, he said on one occasion: "We are no longer able to look, we only register. And, in the long run, always registering numbers, statistics, records, facts, diseases, we have lost sight of men." To this attitude

he opposed his own: "Progress like life, is a movement which comes from within." Every effort to achieve progress by other means, he once said, was "like artificial feeding with glucose injections." Hence the only way to help the peasant is "to take one step with him rather than a hundred steps for him but without him."

To put a policy like that into practice requires an army of field workers. Where could they be found? Father Ayroul answered this question by appealing to young women of wealthy or middle-class families. Most of them had been brought up in the big towns, where every luxury is available to those who can afford it. Instead of luxury Father Ayroul offered these girls hard work in the hot and dusty villages. They were also to be beggars, going from door to door among their rich neighbours, to collect funds for the work—and that, too, was often to be a tiring and thankless task.

They responded to his appeal. Charming young women dressed very simply, wearing no make-up, they soon came to form something like a new order—a lay order in all but name. Father Ayroul, looking with affection at the girls who had so recently been selfish and frivolous pleasure-seekers, found a name to inspire them. They were, he said, his *Responsables*. I travelled around with some

Few men in Britain are so well qualified to write on the subject of prisons as FRANK DAWTRY, secretary to the Probation Officers' Association and the "back room boy" of the movement for prison reform in Britain.

"We must not lose sight of the ideal solution to the problem of prisons," he urges here. It is not to have any.

Frank Dawtry is a member of the National Council of the Peace Pledge Union and of the Council of the War Resisters' International.

TWO PRISON BOOKS

Break Down the Walls, by John Bartlow Martin. Gollancz, 15s.

Diary of a Self Made Convict, by Alfred Hassler. Gollancz, 10s. 6d.

MORE than one English Home Secretary has suggested that the ultimately desirable thing to do with our prisons is to blow them up. Now comes a leading American journalist who says "Break down the walls," and his book ends with suggestions for doing so.

It is an interesting but depressing book, and not really of the standard to merit all the praise and importance attached to it by many critics in this country. As a detailed story of muddle and make belief in the American prison system as a whole, it is a document of importance to any penologist or penal reformer, but it deals with a situation so fantastic as to have little relevance, if indeed any, to the prison problems in Britain. To try to associate it with conditions here may be to set our own reformers on the wrong track.

Tear-gas fitted fortress

Perhaps the reference to an American prison system is misleading for part of the fantasy revealed by this book is the absence of a system. There are local town and county gaols, some of them about the equivalent of our Fleet prison of 1800; there are state prisons, great and small; and there are Federal prisons controlled from Washington by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, James V. Bennett, from whose speeches there are many references in this book—to his activities hardly any. His range is from the most advanced prisons without bars to the highly protected, tear-gas fitted, inescapable island fortress of Alcatraz.

The state prisons are the main subject of this book, and particularly the state prison of Michigan, at Jackson, where a serious riot occurred in 1952. This is the subject of a detailed examination, which goes on also to examine some other prison riots, and forms the foundation for the book. Jackson prison had 6,000 inmates—six thousand!—and for its organisation had to rely on a great deal of prisoner co-operation which involved also corruption, power groupings and a weakening of staff loyalty and discipline. Other prisons in the USA are almost as large and almost as unmanageable except by complete and iron discipline, no inmate responsibility, and heavy penalties for any breach of the rules. This rules out any training in responsibility. In small institutions, prisoner co-operation is part of the training; in Jackson it only led to graft, tale bearing, stool pigeons and an acceptance of "anything for a quiet life" which soon grew into a form of blackmail. When the price got too high someone had to say "no"—and the situation was ripe for a riot.

The ideal solution offered—to have a few penological institutes and a lot of research, and not to have any prisons, is not to be lost sight of. But we in Britain cannot go

of these *Responsables*. They were not priggish. They were full of laughter and very good company, cultured and often highly intelligent. And they justified the confidence which Father Ayroul had placed in them. Many of them were not Catholics.

This good Jesuit had no illusions about education. He knew that the wrong kind of education could do more harm than good. People, he told me, talked of the "stagnation" of village life. But who could wonder, when the best brains were lost to the village by the wrong kind of education? They went to the towns as doctors, lawyers, engineers and so on. In the towns they could earn more money and have the benefit of the shops, theatres and

movies.* Father Ayroul, on the other hand, persuades people to leave all these "amenities" and work for nothing, or very little, among the poor villagers, running schools and dispensaries, visiting the huts of the peasants and bringing back first-hand knowledge, so that they can shock the complacency of comfortable people in the towns.

IS the peasant even capable of change? Father Ayroul believes that he is. Once, in an address, he took a strange example; he spoke of Coca-Cola—the only word I can write in Arabic, because the Arabic advertisements for it are to be seen everywhere. In a few years, by advertising, Coca-Cola made itself part of the national life. Well, says Father Ayroul, there is change for you. If people can change in one thing they can change in others. And the big job, as he sees it, is to get rid of fear among the peasants; for fear is at the root of most social evils.

Only perfect love casts out fear, and that is what Father Ayroul and his colleagues have to offer. Governments can do many things, but they seldom offer love. In one of his speeches Father Ayroul referred to this: "All official measures are conceived by officers very far away from the fellaheen and put into action by officials who do not love the villagers. These offices in town are more concerned with imitating other countries . . . than with the need and deep comprehension of the people, and French I found that Father Ayroul could they are supposed to help."

For a man whose first languages are Arabic express himself very forcibly in English. Government agencies, at their best, he said, had too much prejudice to overcome. It seemed to him normal that the villager should behave like "a child who often beaten, reacts with fright and mistrust and deceit." But what Governments found difficult was not difficult to a voluntary Christian agency. The *Responsables* have won the absolute trust of village women "because they place themselves at their level and work with them like friends."

The last that I heard of Father Ayroul was in May of this year. He had been able to open a new technical school, thanks to the generosity of the Ford Foundation, and other new schools had recently been completed. This sort of thing gives one measure of the man—the measure of concrete achievement. But the final measure, to me, is the measure of his wisdom. It is not just the wisdom of Father Ayroul; it is the wisdom that has enlightened all the prophets in all the ages, the voice that was not in the earthquake nor in the wind, but in the deep places of the heart. We Quakers call it the Inner Light—the continual revelation of God.

Deterrent against deterrents

"Humanity Versus the Hydrogen Bomb," by Stan Birkett. I.L.P., 3d.

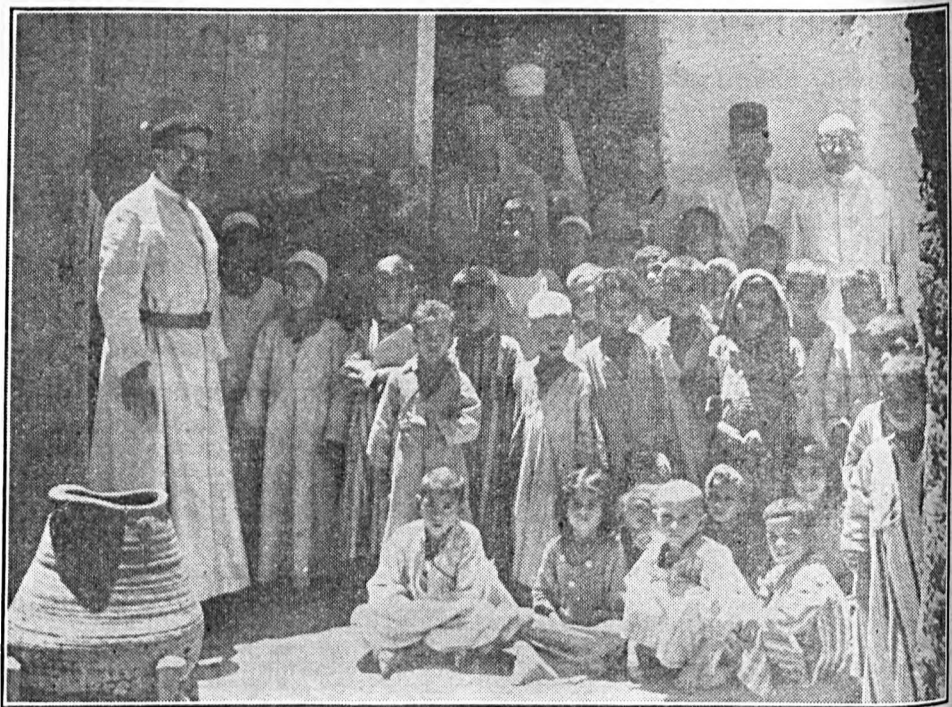
THIS well-produced pamphlet should be given to all of our friends and acquaintances who regard the H-bomb as a deterrent against aggression, and its manufacture by Britain as a regrettable necessity.

Lucidly argued in simple language, the pamphlet is most powerful in its description of the fate of the unhappy victims of the Pacific tests. The Press has already given wide publicity to the Japanese fishermen who died, but the shameful treatment of the inhabitants of the Marshall Islands by the American authorities responsible for the tests has largely escaped journalistic attention.

As well as his unashamed emotional appeal to our humanity over the matter of the tests, the author gives a useful account of the most recent scientific assessments of the effects of widespread H-bomb warfare.

Those who may still think that condemnation of atomic warfare is no more than a Communist device for undermining the morale of the free world will not be surprised to see the British Daily Worker quoted—until they read the extracts. These records of the A-bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the time when the bombs were dropped, and then quote direct contradiction, without apology, of this approval in the same paper a few years later.

John Baines



Father Ayroul (left) arrives at one of his schools

Atte

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Normal i usual state Japan is no Western Pov Japan's rec we were tel items (for J are still on Seeing the to trade the Western Po doing so, relations" e those Powe amount to 1 free to do j ordered.

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As this is a publication, we to make it as cor we reasonably "c use organisers of

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HYDE PARK Action Group. E GLASGOW: " Gates, Victoria R kie and Keith Bo

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Attempt to please everybody

IF a talk is sufficiently involved, it is possible to leave with the listener a false impression. In "Japan's Foreign Policy" (Overseas Service), Ian McDougall said: "... the Western Allies, of course, restored normal relations with Japan long ago."

Normal in English means the regular or usual state or condition, and suggests that Japan is now free and independent of the Western Powers. However, when speaking of Japan's recent trade agreement with China we were told: "that most of the profitable items (for Japan) on the agreed list of goods are still on the strategic embargo list."

Seeing that Japan wants to trade these goods and the Western Powers forbid her doing so, the "normal relations" existing between those Powers and Japan amount to the latter being free to do just what she is ordered.

During the second of his talks "Self Government in the Commonwealth" (Third), Sir Ivor Jennings described the Government of India under British rule as "the pride of that efficient body, the Indian Civil Service," then later:

"The Congress Government which has been in power since 1947 has undoubtedly suffered from defects, but on the whole it has shown a capacity at least as great as its immediate predecessors under British rule. State government has been much less efficient than the Central Government, but it would not have been more efficient had the government of India remained in British hands."

On the whole a jolly good attempt to please everybody, but Sir Ivor might have added that British rule lasted well over a hundred years, and left Congress with a population legacy of ninety per cent illiterates. Not only would it be difficult for Congress to do worse, but the results coming from such an "efficient body" provide an excellent indication of how thankful other parts of the Commonwealth would be to be rid of us.

Listening to the voice of the great Swiss psychologist in "Carl Gustav Jung" (Home), we were once again reminded of the deep humility of the really great. Would that he could have addressed the "Big Four" in Geneva, impressing upon them that "the greatest danger to mankind is man himself."

Our Church leaders might also ponder his conclusion: "Religions do not fulfil that which they claim. They have nothing to offer but words; merely words." Returning from our holiday we were greeted with the alarming news that a stray kitten—which had followed Aunt home just after the first Geneva Conference and was christened "Sir Anthony"—had presented us with a family.

"The hussy!" said Aunt, trying to hide her delight. "Perhaps," we suggested awkwardly, "she also has been to a conference?"

"Maybe, maybe," mused Aunt, "and the darling has got something to show for it!"

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND VIEWS

FROM PAGE THREE

COMMENT: Neither the Archbishop nor Dr. Weatherhead gave any consideration to the fact that the uncertain witness of the Churches about war is one of the reasons for the loss of moral leadership and of divisions. The witness of Churches which all too often seem to be trying to find the way to keep both peace with Caesar and faith with God cannot be an impelling or inspiring one.

Perhaps nothing would help to heal the divisions among Christians, or enable the Church to gain a moral leadership more than the challenge in the name of Christ to a new corporate adventure through the renunciation of war and all the policies of violence.

As this is a free service, we reserve the right to select notices for publication. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore urge organisers of events to:

ABBREVIATIONS: Anglican Pacifist Fellowship; Fellowship of Reconciliation; Peace Pledge Union; Society of Friends; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; WILPF.

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GLASGOW: Open-air mtg. Queen's Park Gates, Victoria Rd. 7.45 p.m. Campbell Wilkie and Keith Bovey. Glasgow PPU.

TUESDAYS

MANCHESTER: 1-2 p.m.; Deansgate Blitz Site. Christian pacifist open-air mtg. Local Methodist ministers and others. MPF.

THURSDAYS

LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Bush Road. E.10 and E.11 Group PPU.

LONDON, W.C.1: 1.15-1.45 p.m.; Church of St. George the Martyr, Queen St. Weekly Peace. Service of Intercession for World Peace. Conducted by clergy and laymen of different denominations.

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LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m.; Dick Shepherd Ho., 6 Endsleigh St. Pacifist Youth Action Group.

SATURDAYS

LIVERPOOL: 7.30 p.m.; Pier Head, Open Air Meeting. Liverpool and District Peace

Cause of War

JOHN NIBB asks me why there have been no wars in the US for generations if it be true, as I say, that wars arise from a way of life in which monetary values have superseded spiritual values.

The reason is simple, namely, that the US is a new country with immense natural resources, as a result of which very high material living standards can be maintained, the minority which lives in hovels and poverty being too small to cause a revolution.

So long as the nation is united in a materialistic outlook and way of life and the resources are forthcoming necessary to its expansion, peace will continue, but let there be a halt in the expansion necessary to satisfy the growing demands for purchasing power and abundance, or inability to procure from abroad all the natural resources they require, then there will be both revolution and war. That is, unless there be a revolution in values.

There has been a lengthy cold war in the US between the industrial North and the agricultural South and West, which is now being solved by the industrialisation of the latter, a policy that is causing large numbers of people to emigrate from the North to the South and West. California and the Carolinas, e.g., are rapidly becoming industrialised.

I am in favour of this process, and indeed have for many years been advocating well-balanced agro-industrial economies for all nations as one of the basic conditions of world peace.

Practically all the Eastern and coloured nations are now adopting such an economy. As this major revolution proceeds it will radically change the world markets situation and reduce the volume of world trade. The East will claim larger and larger shares of the earth's resources, whence the conflict for world markets between the Western States will deepen. This will reduce Western living standards and call for such economic changes as I have suggested, also for a cultural revolution and a complete overhauling of our values. If the latter fails to take place an ideological revolution with possibly world war will result.

There is a limit both physical and spiritual to material expansion. So far we are evading this fact, and we may continue to do so until we become incapable of salvation. The cost will be death and destruction. Even now the writing is on the wall. I have seen it in America; it is also discernible here.

WILFRED WELLOCK.

Orchard Lea, New Longton, Preston.

Agrees with Wellock

AS a member of the younger generation I would like to say that I fully agree with Wilfred Wellock (Peace News, July 15). I began to think seriously along these lines after reading NEW HORIZONS.

The whole system of parliamentary representation is out of date. What is needed is a new way of life, made possible through the re-discovery of the true values.

PATRICIA BRITTAIN.

49 Plane Street, Anlaby Rd., Hull.

Helsinki

THE fact that Peace News is continuing discussions that figured prominently at the World Peace Assembly is to be welcomed. As with the "Summit Talks" it is necessary within the peace movement to outline differences before these can be reconciled on the basis of common purpose and mutual understanding.

As a member of the Commission at Helsinki in which 180 delegates, observers and guests spent many hours thrashing out the differences between sections of the international peace movement, I am disappointed that your leading article appeared to emphasise the old differences rather than the new progress that was made in resolving them.

A feature of this Assembly was the active participation of individual members from such organisations as the War Resisters' International, the Womens International League, the

LETTERS

Society of Friends, Pax Christi, and the Church Peace Mission. This was illustrated by the welcome given to the Rev. D. Candy of Toronto for a speech in which he made it clear that he had come to the Assembly with doubts and misgivings. Subsequently he was elected Chairman of the Drafting Committee responsible for the final statement from the Commission. Speakers in the Commission included Mrs. Lohse-Link, President of the WRI, Stuttgart, and Derek Siven of Finland who demanded that all states should guarantee freedom to conscientious objectors. Acceptance of the statement from the Drafting Committee was moved by Charles Marland, a pacifist from Great Britain, and it was adopted unanimously by our Commission.

134 Salisbury Rd., Moseley, Birmingham 13.

Women and war

I AGREE with Esme Wynne-Tyson that some women have, unfortunately, looked upon equality of opportunity as a reason for aping masculine values and masculine customs, though it is my view that these are only a small minority.

I must join issue, however, when she uses the word "militancy" as though it had the same meaning as "military." The militant organisation, The Women's Social and Political Union, was not non-violent in the pacifist sense of the word, but it was an attempt at civil disobedience, with a rigid regulation that no animal or human life should be endangered, let alone attacked.

That the obvious sincerity, and great suffering and personal sacrifice of those who took part in the campaign may have hastened the reform is perhaps true, but to say the vote was won by the militants is very far from the truth. The years of devoted work by Mrs. Fawcett's organisation, The National Association of Women's Suffrage Societies, cannot be so easily discounted.

I agree too that biologically it would seem natural for women to preserve life rather than take part in destroying it, but I cannot agree that the virtues of tenderness, love, gentleness, beauty, protectiveness and mercy are the prerogative of women, even if once they were "supposed to be."

I have known women who were extremely violent and revengeful, and men who were gentle and forgiving. I believe we cannot generalise in this way, though it would be a great day if ever the women of the world were prepared to break away from the slavish regimentation which has fallen upon male and female alike in this war-ridden world.

SYBIL MORRISON

London, S.W.3.

Regimentation of women

WHILE agreeing wholeheartedly with your correspondent's horror of the regimentation of women for war, I remind her that we should take account of motive. The motive of Joan of Arc—however misguided the means—was surely to rid her country of the scourge of invading armies; the motive of the Israeli women is to assert the right of the Jews to an independent existence—a right which was most brutally threatened in the formative years of their lives.

That the militant means is morally wrong and in the long run effectual is not a peculiarly feminine conviction, but a truth which all mankind recognises when the mind is free from greed and fear.

NAOMI BIRNBERG.

8 The Orchard, Blackheath, S.E.3.

Murder by proxy

DOES the Rev. Kenneth Rawlings (PN 22) assert that to stand by the Civil Code in respect of murder, and by the commandments of religion is to stand by oneself and declare: "I am holier than thou?" Surely he is joking! He is right, though, to advise one not to equate the vice of drunkenness too readily with that of murder. The individual given to excess-

sive drinking hardly needs to sign a pledge to convince his fellowmen of his cure. This becomes quickly evident once he ceases to drink in excess, or better still never touches alcohol any more. But the vice of murder is most insidious, and can even, for instance, be craftily indulged in by proxy, especially when it takes the form of war. To know who are the addicts and who are not is, therefore, no easy matter. A public statement that one will never back war in any form or for any cause inspires confidence in those who are not quite certain of a friend's attitude. It therefore sorts people out usefully, and thereby facilitates all true endeavours towards lasting peace.

FRANCOISE DELISLE.

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ohn Banks

WAR RESISTERS AT GENEVA

be made, but that emphasis should always be given to the refusal to take part in any kind of war, and that this includes (as Harold Bing, the Chairman, put it) "organised armed action in any form."

International Conference

There are of course in most Sections of the International and therefore in the International itself numerous interpretations of the declaration. Does it involve non-violence or non-resistance? How should it affect personal conduct? Where do pacifists stand in relation to use of the police and the law? These and many other matters are raised from various parts of the world and Council decided that at the next International Conference of the WRI, to be held in England in 1957, the implications of the declaration should be one of the main subjects for discussion.

There are of course public as well as private implications of the pacifist position. The pacifist attitude to imperialist policies and to the State are two examples on which material has been gathered and on which it is still hoped to be able to publish informed statements.

There is also the question of whether the pacifist in a country which makes no provision for conscientious objection should resist to the bitter end, even to death, or accept asylum in another country. No one can make such a decision for another person; the WRI does not encourage escape but has been able to assist a few war resisters who felt that their stand could serve no further useful purpose in their own country and wished to try to work for humanity elsewhere.

Persecution of COs

Two countries have now offered asylum and the WRI still hopes that international recognition may be given to the conscientious objector as a "persecuted person" if he feels he must leave a country which denies him the human right of such objection. Short of such extreme situations however the Council heard of many brave and dramatic actions by war resisters in many parts of the world. The International helps them to know that they are not alone.

The Council had reports of recent developments in the policy of the World Peace Council and of some evidence of tolerance for the pacifist line within that organisation; but members as a whole felt that the changes of policy within the WPC too accurately reflect only changes of policy by the Communist Governments. The WPC has so far not revealed any opposition to conscription, any recognition of conscientious objection, or any criticism of the governments of the communist countries. Members of the WRI have attended World Peace Council conferences and will no doubt continue to do so, but the WRI Council was not able to offer official support or to agree to any closer link with the WPC.

As the world grows increasingly aware of the horrors facing it and as countries gaining independence gain also greater knowledge of what is happening in the world, so does the desire grow for an understanding of the pacifist alternative to war.

The WRI frequently receives requests for information and for membership and the Council decided to encourage an effort by the Secretaries to build up new contacts for the International in numerous countries where at present there are only few, or no, members; and to encourage existing Sections to increase their efforts in propaganda and building of

membership in their own countries.

Ideas for contacting students in the great university centres of the world and for using the sympathetic press in all parts of the world to publicise the International were also approved.

The Big Four were still talking when the Council rose last Friday. All will hope that the summit talks will lead to reduced tension in the world; if not the inevitable effect will of course be increased tension. In either case the world will still be a long way from peace. But the work of the WRI Council in Geneva could be, and should be, a contribution to the spread of pacifist ideas and knowledge and to the improvement of the work of the international war resistance movement in encouraging, advising and where necessary assisting those who refuse to support war or the preparation for it. The effect of this, at least, cannot be in doubt; it must bring the world so much nearer to peace.

'Children of Hiroshima' showing in the North

ON August 6, ten years ago, the first operational atom bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Now the city is being rebuilt, and visitors to the Newcine, Aberdeen, during the first week in August will be able to see *Children of Hiroshima*, which tells the moving story of a beautiful young school teacher's return to her native Hiroshima some years after the bomb to look up some of the survivors of the nursery school, where she taught.

The film is based on real-life incidents written down in letters by Hiroshima school-children. As might be expected from youngsters with their whole lives ahead of them, there appears a strong feeling of hope for the future, despite the tribulations of modern life in a once atom-blasted city.

Earl Russell, O.M. (Bertrand Russell), who describes *Children of Hiroshima* as "a most impressive film, which should be very widely seen," has summed up the story of this Japanese picture as being "singularly free from bitterness or recrimination."

PACIFISTS AT HELSINKI URGE CO-OPERATION

TWENTY-FIVE pacifists who attended the World Peace Council Assembly in Helsinki last month met together with Professor Felix Iversen and Deryck Siven, two Finnish pacifists and afterwards issued the following statement.

Most of them were attending the Assembly in an individual capacity. They included members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Society of Friends, War Resisters' International, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Church Peace Mission, and Scandinavian peace organisations.

"Many of those present had been hesitant about taking part in the World Assembly for Peace. But all are now of the opinion that it is desirable to take part in this worthwhile task."

Responsible people in the above mentioned organisations should be informed that work of reconciliation ought to be done where most of the forces for Peace are already gathered together. Like those Churches, which today are realizing that they must take their message to the workers, the pacifists are duty-bound to go where large sections of all the world's people see their ideas represented in maintaining peace and the building of a just society.

Those gathered here are of the opinion that a clear picture of the situation in various parts of the world has been presented. The voices of very many of the world's people have been heard. And here we have been able to seek the basis of positive co-operation for maintaining Peace."

Among the signatories were: Felix Iversen, Finland; Charles Marland, Gt. Britain; George E. Hutchinson, Australia;



Frau Lohse-Link with three members of the Stuttgart War Resisters' Group.

Victorious H-bomb?

The credit for the thaw in the cold war goes to the H-bomb.

—The Observer, July 24, 1955.

The real and effective security system of the world is today the possession of the atomic and hydrogen bombs by two rival power blocs. The fear of their use makes war unthinkable—we must think twice and thrice before proceeding to demolish the balance of nuclear power.

—The Sunday Times, July 24, 1955.

But it is sad that we still have to accept the smiles of statesmen as a substitute for the substance of peace.

—The Daily Telegraph, July 25, 1955.

IT is seldom that I find myself in agreement with the political comments of the Daily Telegraph, but the last words quoted above in reference to the Geneva "talks," in my view sum up the situation extremely well.

It is, naturally, a matter for thankfulness, though not a little surprise, that the usual vituperative exchanges have been absent, but peace, fortunately, has not depended upon whether statesmen have chosen to be rude or polite in their manner of speaking; if it had, the world would have been involved in war long ago.

That the leaders of the Great Powers have realised at last that no purpose can be served by going to war is something for which the peoples of the world are grateful. That there is a change of policy is certain; what is not so certain is that there is a change of heart.

The policy of "peace through strength" has failed simply because it caused a race in armaments which has resulted in, broadly speaking, an equality of strength. A change was, therefore, inevitable, and the new policy would appear to be "peace through fear of that strength."

This, no doubt, is the reason why there was no word at the conference table of renouncing nuclear weapons, which are the main strength of both the power blocs; on the contrary, the directive to the Foreign secretaries on disarmament carefully avoids that issue.

Behind the smiles, and the waves, and the gay parting words there lurks still the power to destroy the human race. On this power statesmen have placed their reliance for peace. They are convinced that there could be no victor in a nuclear weapon war, and war without victory is "unthinkable," but that conviction, far from calling forth some strong pronounce-

ment against war, has resulted merely in a determination to maintain the balance of nuclear power for the purpose, apparently, of frightening each other into keeping the peace. If the talks had in fact removed mistrust of each other's motives, as has been stated by the leaders at Geneva, the obvious next step should surely have been to show some trust in each other by proposals for immediate disarmament.

Fear is a very frail foundation on which to build for permanent peace; in fact it is no foundation at all. If tension has been relaxed because of the fear engendered by our monstrous inventions no one can possibly be anything but thankful. But the monstrous inventions remain; remain to terrify, and remain to be used.

The substance of peace is missing because of the lack of any positive objective on moral grounds. There has been no recognition of the wrong done to mankind by this continuing threat of extinction if some politician, a respectable man or woman, should make a false step, or forget to smile.

Though the H-bomb may seem to have won a precarious and temporary relief, no permanent settlement can be hoped for on shifting sands as the fluctuations of fears; the solid foundation for a real peace has still to be laid.

There can be no reality, no firm foothold, no basically sound stability until it has been recognised, not only that war in certain circumstances is "unthinkable," but that it is evil and immoral, and therefore unthinkable in any circumstances. When this principle has been accepted, and not before, it will be renounced.

No official colour bar

TO ENGLAND'S CREDIT—Manley

From HUGH GARSIDE

"MOST of the world, and most of the Commonwealth, has closed its doors to coloured people. It is greatly to England's credit that she has refused to establish an official colour bar."

This view on Jamaican and West Indian emigration to Britain was expressed by Norman Manley, Chief Minister of Jamaica, in London recently when he was the principal speaker at a meeting in the Porchester Hotel, Paddington.

An audience of four or five hundred, most West Indians who had waited for him for one and a half hours, gave Mr. Manley a reception as warm as the evening.

In Jamaica, he reminded them, there was 20 per cent chronic unemployment, and only two things which kept the unemployed alive—the sun, and the "unending charity of the poor to the poor."

Was it any wonder, said Mr. Manley, that Jamaicans came to Britain to look for life? One of the great unsolved problems of the modern world was how different races might live together in harmony.

"We in the Caribbean boast of having made a real contribution to civilisation; there are few places in the world where people of different race and colour can live together with so much mutual respect."

Birth of our nation

Mr. Manley told the meeting of his intention, before Caribbean federation came about, to organise a Caribbean federation of progressive parties to contest the first Caribbean General Election.

Speaking of Federation, he remarked that Britain was supporting the plan of Federation and Caribbean freedom.

"If suspicious people ask me why, I must say that I do not know, though I can think of many replies, some of them kind and some of them cynical."

"It is the privilege of our time," he said, "to help in the birth of our nation. I am happy and proud to be able to serve in this way."

The chair was occupied by Dr. Pitt, Premier of Barbados. Mr. R. A. Allan, MP (Con. Paddington South), and Mr. Ben Parkin, MP (Lab. Paddington North), were present to welcome Mr. Manley. The meeting was organised by the Afro-West Indian Social and Cultural Club.

It begins in a minority

THE policies that make for war can be changed by public opinion, Stuart Morrison, General Secretary of the Peace Pledge Union, told a meeting at Exeter (Devon) recently. This always begins in a minority, and it is our job to create a minority large enough to change the policies of those who are willing to resort to war.

"Peace by deterrent," said Stuart Morrison, "is no peace at all." We could be sure that the event of another war nuclear weapons would be used. There could be no peaceful co-existence based on fear. If we are relying upon this we are only increasing the tension.

The meeting, arranged by the Exeter Group of the Peace Pledge Union was presided over by Mr. Harry Forest.

FOOTNOTE: Last year Charles Marland, an elderly Quaker, walked through military camps in the South of England distributing leaflets asking "Can you still take part in war?" After being detained by the police, he told Peace News: "Human prohibitions do not now count with me so much as the command 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel of love'."

PARLIAMENT

● FROM PAGE ONE

"Naturally, we all hope that the outcome of the Geneva talks will have that very desirable result," he said, "but I am afraid I could not go further than the answer I have given."

Mr. Morrison tried again, asking if the Government were satisfied that, as a result of these explosions, there was no danger to the physical well-being either of our own people or of people in other countries.

Again the Chancellor refused to enlarge on what he had said. He pointed out that his answer was based on the best advice available to the Government.

Mr. John Strachey (Lab., Dundee, W.): "Would not the Chancellor agree that, whatever may be the actual risk of any particular explosion, the proposal to ban further test explosions holds the field as the only practical step in nuclear disarmament?"

Mr. Butler replied that that question raised very wide issues, but he permitted himself this cautious comment: "Of course, there is a great deal of value in the suggestion made by Mr. Strachey."

KATE STEPHENS

MANY Plymouth peace groups were represented at the funeral on July 20 of Mrs. Kate Stephens, for many years an enthusiastic Peace News distributor.

Inspired by her fearless witness for peace, a Plymouth reader sends Peace News £1 in lieu of a wreath.

PN Office needs more helpers

With the office staff reduced through holidays, there is an urgent need for voluntary helpers at Peace News for despatching work. Address: 3, Blackstock Road, N.4 (Above Fish and Cook, Stationers, and 3 minutes from Finsbury Park Underground Station).

Hours Monday-Friday, 9.30 p.m. to 5.30 a.m. (Wednesday 10 p.m.).

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union.

Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS

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